DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 447 245 UD 033 870

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TITLE	Working with Latino Youth: Culture, Development, and Context.
ISBN	ISBN-0-7879-4325-8
PUB DATE	1999-00-00
NOTE	236p.; Forewords by Jose Szapocznik and Lillian Comas-Diaz.
AVAILABLE FROM	Jossey-Bass Publishers, 350 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 ($35.95). Tel: 888-378-2537 (toll-free); Fax: 800-605-2665. Web site: http://www.josseybass.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom (055)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Acculturation; Behavior Problems; Child Development; Children; Community Health Services; Context Effect; *Counseling; *Cultural Differences; Ethnicity; Family Influence; *Hispanic Americans; Immigrants; *Mental Health; Spirituality; *Youth Problems
IDENTIFIERS	*Latinos

ABSTRACT

This book provides guidance in addressing the special needs of Latino children and adolescents, offering a comprehensive examination of four contextual levels: the microsystem level of family; the mesosystem and exosystem level of school and community; and the macrosystem level of cultural practices. Culturally responsive treatment strategies are discussed. Chapter 1 describes the need to take a contextual view in working with Latino youth. Chapter 2 presents a contextual theory on developing psychosocial treatments that respond to both culture and development. Chapter 3 examines the activities of individuals within specific contexts, exploring relationships within which Latino youth live. Chapter 4 presents case studies of youth with behavioral and emotional problems associated with these contexts. Chapter 5 discusses risk and environmental fit. Chapter 6 presents case material related to problems and issues in Chapter 5, detailing techniques for assessment and intervention. Chapter 7 discusses major institutions and settings in relation to family, school, and peer group activities. Chapter 8 highlights how cultural orientations contextualize individual lifescapes. Chapter 9 discusses implications of the model for developing interventions from a contextual perspective, exploring how managed care structures intervention development and delivery and the danger of not considering cultural diversity. (SM)

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